

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****Attorney Docket No. 017446-0321**

Applicant: Kenichi ARIGA, et al.

Title: DATA DISTRIBUTION METHOD, SYSTEM, AND
APPARATUS AND RECORDING MEDIUM RECORDING
METHOD**RECEIVED**

Application No.: 09/986,040

SEP 22 2004

Filing Date: November 7, 2001

Technology Center 2100

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2151

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued July 28, 2004 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

“Claims 1-9
References 1-2

Remarks

Reference 1 mentions, in “2. Purpose of Filtering”, (1) “obtaining personal preferences from the processes (history) the user took for the information,” and that (2) “processes (history)” includes deletion of information, moving and copying information to directory.

It further discusses, in “6. Application for World Wide Web (www)”, selecting information to be notified to users by using the personal preferences, and that it is preferred to obtain the personal preferences from the operation history (content of operations for the notified information and agreement) that the user has for the Web browser.

Here, moving and copying the information to the directory means saving the information to the directory.

Reference 2 teaches an information providing server system that provides information in accordance with the personal preferences registered into the server.

Hence, the invention of Claims 1, 3-9 of the present application could have easily been made by a person skilled in the art based on the descriptions in References 1 and 2.

Furthermore, even if “the structure to send the operation content from the user terminal to the delivery center” of the claim(s) suggest that the operation content is processed on the delivery center side to gather the user’s preference, it is a mere design matter whether the process to obtain the user’s preference

from the operation content should be done at the user terminal or at the delivery center.

In delivering information, it is a mere design matter to assign an identification number to each set of data to use said number when exchanging information between the terminals and delivery center. (Claim 2)

Index of Cited References

1. Noriyosshi(?) Asakura, Koji Kida(?), [pronunciation of the third author, unknown], "Internet Information Filer based on Individual interests", NEC Technical Journal, Japan, NEC Creative, 07/30/1996, Vol. 49, No. 7, Pages 17-23
2. JP 11-66081."

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

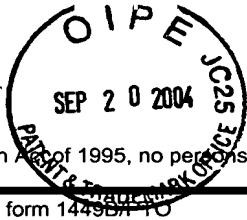
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 20, 2004

Phillip J. Articola
Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5300
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399



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Substitute for form 1449B-PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: September 20, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/986,040

Filing Date 11/07/2001

First Named Inventor Kenichi ARIGA

Group Art Unit 2151

Examiner Name Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number 017446-0321 Technology Center 2100

RECEIVED**SEP 22 2004****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A1	JP	11-66081			03/09/1999		ABS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A2	TAKAYOSHI ASAKURA et al., "Internet Information Filter Based on Personal Interests", 7/1996, pages 17-23, Vol. 49.	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.